

Extracellular vesicles as mediators of the response to respiratory exposures

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Propositions

regarding the dissertation

Extracellular vesicles as mediators of the response to respiratory exposures

Maastricht, June 7th, 2018

Birke Benedikter

1. Appropriate methodology is a crucial prerequisite for studying extracellular vesicles. (*This thesis*)
2. Biological functions of extracellular vesicles can be predicted based on their composition. (*This thesis*)
3. Procoagulant extracellular vesicles may contribute to the mechanistic link between environmental exposures and (comorbid) respiratory and cardiovascular disease. (*This thesis*)
4. The antioxidant properties of N-acetyl-L-cysteine potentially contribute to its therapeutic effect in COPD patients and may also benefit patients with cardiovascular disease. (*This thesis*)
5. A big challenge in the field of extracellular vesicle research will be to establish the relative importance of extracellular vesicles compared to non-vesicle-bound mediators.
6. Extracellular vesicles may promote chronic inflammation by spreading cellular senescence.
7. Although no experimental model is perfect, even simple models contribute to improved understanding of complex biological processes.
8. Omics studies and bioinformatics analyses will be among the most important tools of future biomedical research.
9. Skepticism is an essential skill for a good researcher.
10. The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. (*Albert Einstein*)
11. There is always an easy solution to every problem – neat, plausible and wrong. (*Adapted from H. L. Mencken*)